



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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July 19, 2005

In Reply Refer to:
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EMS TRANSMISSION: 7/19/05
Instruction Memorandum No. CA-2005-047
Expires: 09/30/06

To: Cencal Field Managers
Attention: Fire Management Officers

From: State Director

Subject: 2005 Central California Region Fire Readiness Review Actions **DD: 07/29/05**

The Readiness Review for the Central California Regional was conducted between May 31 and June 7, 2005. The review team was led by Gary Cardoza and Paul Bannister from the BLM California State Office, Branch of Fire and Aviation. The areas reviewed included: Midway, South Fork, and Chimney Peak Fire Stations as well as the Kern Valley Hotshot Crew (Bakersfield F.O.), Conway Summit, Mono Lake and Topaz Fire Stations (Bishop F.O.). The Folsom and Hollister Fire Management Programs were also reviewed. All suppression personnel, suppression resources, and Line Officers were reviewed and/or interviewed.

The Review Team was composed of:

Gary Cardoza – State Fire Equipment Specialist
Paul Bannister – State Fire Operations Specialist
Craig Barnes – State Fuels Management Specialist
Miriam Morrill – State Fire Mitigation Specialist
Maria Soto – Bakersfield F.O., IRM
Ron Woychak – Desert District Regional Fire Management Officer

The Keene Helitack Crew was reviewed by:
Chris Parkan – State Aviation Manager

Results:

The overall results of the review were positive. The crews all proved to be proficient during all phases of the operational drills. It is our finding that all of the Central California Region's fire suppression resources are well trained and prepared to safely and effectively fight fire for the 2005 fire season.

Action items:

The following is a list of items that were recognized during the review process that need some corrective action.

- Insure that current Red Cards have been issued to all employees engaged in fire suppression/support activities.

South Fork Fire Station:

- Some additional documentation required in training folders (Captain's were briefed)
- Continue to recruit for primary supervisor position (Station Captain)
- New EPAP's are not being utilized, EPAP training is needed
- Consider running light engine in tandem with heavy utilizing ENOP
- Complete station potable water system
- Complete documentation for SCBA daily and monthly checklists

Chimney Peak Fire Station:

- Need to complete a site plan for the office space and living quarters area. (Work with Gary Cardoza to outline needs)
- Crews should continue to drill using 2 person crews. Continue developing proficiencies and safety trigger points.

Conway/Mono Fire Station:

- Complete SCBA documentation

Bakersfield Fire Station:

- Provide time for dozer operator and swamper to train together. Loading, unloading, angling blade, etc.

Keen Helitack:

The Keene flight Crew has adequate facilities but they are temporary. Their contract can be revoked with a 60 day notice. The crew needs permanent facilities.

- Recommend that the Regional Fire Management Officer assigns an individual to follow-up on this issue and make some recommendations

Please provide written documentation that these action items have been corrected, or that a process has been initiated for resolve **by July 29, 2005**. Forward your information to Paul Bannister, CA State Fire Operations Specialist, and feel free to call with any questions and/or concerns at (916) 978-4437.

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to this Readiness Review process.

Signed by:
James Wesley Abbott
Associate State Director

Authenticated by:
Richard A. Erickson
Records Management